

VILLAGE OF BETHANY
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
March 12, 2026

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Village President Brian Gill. The following Trustees were present: Dave Doty, Jeannie Ruppert, Greg McLain, Karen Jeffers and Gene Mueller.

A motion was made by Trustee Mueller to allow Trustee England to join the meeting remotely, seconded by Trustee Doty. Voice vote taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doty to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2026, regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Mueller to approve the "Statement of Income and Expenses", seconded by Trustee Doty. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doty to approve the "Banks and Checks Journal", seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Public – None

Greg Gustafson Water Improvement Project Updates - Mr. Gustafson is not here this month. A motion was made by Trustee Doty to approve Pay request #7 from A & R in the amount of \$34,583.62, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken all ayes, motion carried.

Sludge Hauling Removal Contract - Matt Foster brought in a contract for hauling sludge from the sewer plant. MetroAg will come in and haul all of the sludge off to the Decatur Sanitary Dist. Decatur asked for samples from the last five years to make sure of the material in the sludge. We had a meeting with them about three months ago or so. Mr. Foster met with them to see what the costs would be. This initial one would cost us around \$30,000; \$15,000 to each MetroAg and Decatur Sanitary Dist. Then we would be able to get onto a rotation. Patrick Sullivan, Village Attorney, did add some protections in the contract on behalf of the Village. A motion was made by Trustee McLain to approve the contract with MetroAg, seconded by Trustee Jeffers. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Insurance Renewals for 2026 - Danielle Finn was here to discuss health insurance for the Village employees. Ms. Finn presented a handout with several options that are available for the Village. Manager, Shannon Risley mentioned that the employees would like to keep the same plan that they currently have. The Village will keep the current plan in place.

Amending the Liquor Ordinance - Mr. Sullivan presented a clean copy of the amended ordinance. He recommends not to take action tonight but to see if anyone has questions. Then look to approve these changes next month.

Trustee Jeffers has been working on the Veteran's Banners. \$128.38 for a double-sided banner. She has a mock up design to show to the Board.

Special Liquor License for Celebration Committee - June 19 & 20 for the Celebration. Cassandra Lamdin was here on behalf of the Committee. This will be the last summer event as it will be moved back to the fall. There will be no beer tent this year as they lose too much money.

Donation for the Celebration Committee - Ms. Lamdin also presented a donation form for the Village to help with the cost of the fireworks. A motion was made by Trustee McLain to donate to the Bethany Celebration committee \$1500 for fireworks and \$500 for the ad book, payable from the Utility Dept. contingent on proof of insurance and a state issued firework operator license, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Reports - Village Manager Shannon Risley, Police Chief Chris Nichols

Correspondence – Email received from family member of Majorie Pearl Hixson regarding her turning 100 on April 25th.

Committee Meeting Dates –

Finance

March 30th

6:30 pm

*employee compensation

Utilities

March 30th

6:00 pm

*new utility rates

With no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Ruppert and seconded by Trustee Jeffers. Voice vote taken, all ayes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie McLain, Clerk

Brian Gill, President